PATENT APPLICATION

Group Art Unit: 1646

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Shiro SHIBAYAMA et al

Appln. No.: Continuation of 09/246,355

Filed: February 25, 2002 Examiner: Mertz, P.

For: A NOVEL POLYPEPTIDE AND DNAs ENCODING IT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The listed documents were either cited by the Examiner or brought to the Examiner's attention by Applicants during prosecution of Parent Application No. 09/246,355, filed February 8, 1999; Grandparent Application No. 08/852,811, filed May 7, 1997; or Great-Grandparent Application No. 08/439,757, filed May 11, 1995. Hence, no additional copies of the references are provided.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before three months from the application's filing date for an application, and before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CONT of USSN 09/246,355

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 25, 2002

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| Substitute for form 1449 A & B/PTO | | Complete if Known | | | | | |
| | ., | | | Application Number | CONT of USSN 09/ | /246,355 | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE | | | | Confirmation Number Filing Date February 25, 2002 | | | |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | | | | | |
| (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | First Named Inventor | Shiro SHIBAYAMA et al | | |
| | | | | Art Unit | 1646 | F- | |
| <u></u> | | | | Examiner Name | Mertz, P. | - 60 | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | Q-68658 | SCO | |
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is indicate here if English language Translation is attached.